

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/086,792

Applicant(s)

MCNAMARA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael D. Meucci

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the request for reconsideration file 05 July 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6-21, 23, 47-67.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20050609</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jens Jenkins (Reg. No. 44,803) on 14 November 2005.

2. The listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1 – 5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a wireless device.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprises:
an act of delivering the notification to a mobile service provider.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a mobile service provider.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprises:
an act of delivering the notification to a wireless device.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
determining that the notification is an instant message.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

an act of failing to detect any category associated with the notification; and
an act of determining that the notification is of a default category based on the failure to detect any category associated with the notification.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a buddy list-related notification.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a news-related notification.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a mobile-originated notification.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether to check that the notification should be muted.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

accessing a user profile associated with a sender or receiver of the notification.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

authenticating the notification by verifying whether a user account is disabled or authorized.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

inserting an advertisement into the notification.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

formatting the notification for the notification sink.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether a user has exceeded a message limit.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining the transform operations to perform based on the category.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising an act of determining the order of operations to perform based on the category.

24-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) In a network environment comprised of one or more computer or devices such as mobile devices that serve as notification sources, meaning that such computer or devices serve as sources where notifications are generated in response to an event, such notifications being generated in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request or included with a SOAP message that is included within an HTTP post request, and wherein the network is also comprised of one or more computers or devices that serve as notification sinks, meaning that such computer or devices serve as destinations on the network where the generated notifications are to be sent, a method for delivering such notifications from a notification service that scales the notifications to the number and variety of notification sources and notification sinks at the time such notifications are generated and delivered, the method comprising:

(a) receiving, at a listening component of the delivery service, a notification generated by a notification source in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request, notification content of the notification being structured within the XML document that identifies data including a category of notification and transform operations associated with the category that may be performed on notifications of the particular category;

(b) translating the notification into an internal processing format

(c) forwarding the translated notification to a routing component of the notification service where categorizations of notifications that may be received are stored in an XML

configuration document, wherein each of the categories has associated transform operations that may be performed for that category;

(d) referencing the XML configuration document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification and performing at the routing component one or more of the associated transform operations on the notification content of the XML document;

(e) forwarding the notification from the routing component to a delivery component of the notification service for delivery to the notification sinks of the network;

(f) changing the XML configuration document at the router by adding or deleting nodes of the XML document to add or delete different categories of notifications, and editing transform operations consistent with the added or deleted categories; and

(g) repeating parts (a) through (e) for any subsequent notification corresponding to the changed categories of notifications.

48. (Currently Amended) In a network environment comprised of one or more computer or devices such as mobile devices that serve as notification sources, meaning that such computer or devices serve as sources where notifications are generated in response to an event, such notifications being generated in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request or included with a SOAP message that is included within an HTTP post request, and wherein the network is also comprised of one or more computers or devices that serve as notification sinks, meaning that such computer or devices serve as destinations on the network where the

generated notifications are to be sent, a computer program product for implementing a method for delivering such notifications from a notification service that scales the notifications to the number and variety of notification sources and notification sinks at the time such notifications are generated and delivered, the method comprising:

- (a) receiving, at a listening component of the delivery service, a notification generated by a notification source in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP post request, notification content of the notification being structured within the XML document that identifies data including a category of notification and transform operations associated with the category that may be performed on notifications of the particular category;

- (b) translating the notification into an internal processing format

- (c) forwarding the translated notification to a routing component of the notification service where categorizations of notifications that may be received are stored in an XML configuration document, wherein each of the categories has associated transform operations that may be performed for that category;

- (d) referencing the XML configuration document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification and performing at the routing component one or more of the associated transform operations on the notification content of the XML document;

- (e) forwarding the notification from the routing component to a delivery component of the notification service for delivery to the notification sinks of the network;

(f) changing the XML configuration document at the router by adding or deleting nodes of the XML document to add or delete different categories of notifications, and editing transform operations consistent with the added or deleted categories; and

(g) repeating parts (a) through (e) for any subsequent notification corresponding to the changed categories of notifications.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, further comprising a step for scaling the notification service in order to take into account the changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network, the scaling being performed by:

providing the listener, routing, and delivery components of the notification service with a plurality of identical modules for performing the functions of the listener, routing, and delivery components;

providing each of the listener, routing, and delivery components with a load balancing function that distributes a received notification to one of the modules of that component; and

changing the number of modules at one or more of the listener, routing, and delivery components in order to take into account changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network.

50. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a wireless device.

51. (New) The computer program product of claim 50, further comprises:
an act of delivering the notification to a mobile service provider.

52. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the listener component of the notification service receives the notification from a mobile service provider.

53. (New) The computer program product for implementing the method of claim 52, further comprises:
an act of delivering the notification to a wireless device.

54. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
determining that the notification is an instant message.

55. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:
an act of failing to detect any category associated with the notification; and

an act of determining that the notification is of a default category based on the failure to detect any category associated with the notification.

56. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a buddy list-related notification.

57. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a news-related notification.

58. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of referencing the configuration XML document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification comprises:

determining that the notification is a mobile-originated notification.

59. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether to check that the notification should be muted.

60. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

accessing a user profile associated with a sender or receiver of the notification.

61. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

authenticating the notification by verifying whether a user account is disabled or authorized.

62. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

inserting an advertisement into the notification.

63. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

formatting the notification for the notification sink.

64. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining whether a user has exceeded a message limit.

65. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, wherein the act of performing one or more transform operations on the notification content based on the category associated with the notification comprises:

determining the transform operations to perform based on the category.

66. (New) The computer program product of claim 65, further comprising an act of determining the order of operations to perform based on the category.

67. (New) The computer program product of claim 48, further comprising a step for scaling the notification service in order to take into account the changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network, the scaling being performed by:

providing the listener, routing, and delivery components of the notification service with a plurality of identical modules for performing the functions of the listener, routing, and delivery components;

providing each of the listener, routing, and delivery components with a load balancing function that distributes a received notification to one of the modules of that component; and

changing the number of modules at one or more of the listener, routing, and delivery components in order to take into account changes in the number of notification sources or notification sinks on the network.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest art retrieved within the search is Bantz et al. (U.S. 2002/0120711 A1) hereinafter referred to as Bantz. Bantz discloses: receiving, at a listening component of the delivery service, a notification generated by a notification source in a network format (paragraph [0006]-[0007] on page 1); notification content of the notification being structured within the XML document that identifies data such as a category of notification (paragraph [0035] on page 3); translating the notification into an internal processing format (paragraph [0035] on page 3); forwarding the translated notification to a routing component of the notification service where categorizations of notifications that may be received are stored in a configuration document, wherein each of the categories has associated transform operations that may be performed for that category (paragraphs [0035]-[0037] on pages 3-4 and Fig. 2); referencing the configuration document at the routing component to determine a category associated with the notification and performing at the routing component one or more of the associated transform operations on the notification content (paragraphs [0035]-[0037] on pages 3-4); forwarding the notification from the routing component to a delivery component of the notification service for delivery to the notification sinks of the network (paragraphs [0035]-[0038] on pages 3-4);

The prior art references of record do not teach (alone or in combination) all the limitations together within the independent claims 47 and 48. For example, the independent claims contain the limitations of: a notification generated by a notification source in a network format comprised of an XML document included within an HTTP

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post request; notification content of the notification being structured within the XML document that identifies data such as transform operations associated with the category that may be performed on notifications of the particular category; the configuration document being an XML configuration document; changing the XML configuration document at the router by adding or deleting nodes of the XML document to add or delete different categories of notifications, and editing transform operations consistent with the added or deleted categories. Bantz teaches parsing the XML document but does not mention the XML document being included within an HTTP post request. Furthermore, Bantz teaches the notification document including a category but fails to include transform operations in the notification content. Bantz teaches a general configuration document (subscription manager of paragraph [0037] on page 4, but does not teach the configuration document specifically being an XML configuration document, and does not mention changing the configuration document by adding or deleting nodes representing categories of the notification types. Therefore, the independent claims 47 and 48 have allowable subject matter and are allowable over the prior art of record. The dependent claims of these claims are also allowable

3. Claims 6-21, 23, 47-67 are allowed.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Meucci at (571) 272-3892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for this Group is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


BEATRIZ PRIETO
PRIMARY EXAMINER